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Sep 5th 2018

Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

We have been customers of our small, local ISP for over 20 years; from dial-up, to DSL, and now fiber. When we first became customers, they were the ONLY provider available. For many years, they were the only provider we could afford.

Their prices and the speeds they offer have always been competitive and their customer service is incomparable and outstanding. We live in a semi-rural community in a rather isolated valley, we homeschool our child, and we rely on our ISP every day. We conduct daily household business via our Sonic connection that would otherwise require hour(s) long trips to nearby cities and larger towns.

During the October fires in 2017, our internet connection through Sonic was our only truly reliable means for obtaining timely and accurate information about the safety of our community, and our neighboring communities, in a situation that was sometimes changing by the minute.

Supporting local, small businesses makes sense because it keeps jobs available and keeps our economy strong. It is imperative that the telecom market remains competitive for small and large providers.

Melanie Saweliew